**Psy 331.03 Advanced Laboratory in Operant Conditioning**

**Dr. Val Farmer-Dougan**

**Study guide Week 11: Play Behavior**

**Byosiere, Espinosa & Smuts (2016). Investigation of the function of play bows in adult pet dogs**

1. How do the authors define play? When do play signals typically develop in the domestic dog? What do they suggest are the benefits of play?
2. What is a “play bow”? What or how is it used during play?
3. What motivation do the authors suggest is the reason for play and play bows?
4. What are the 5 hypotheses put forward by these authors?
5. Describe the methodology:
	1. Who were the subjects?
	2. How were the data collected?
	3. Give at least 3 examples of behavioral definitions used in the study.
6. What model was used to analyze the data?
7. Describe whether and how each of the 5 hypotheses were supported or not supported by the data.
8. What three conclusions/hypotheses do the authors  make as a result of their study?

**Horowitz (2009)**

1. 1.    What are “attention seeking” behaviors and why are they important?
2. 2.    What are play signals and what are they used for?
3. 3.    What are the necessary components of a successful play signal?
4. 4.    What are the order of operations related to the attentional state of the audience?
5. 5.    What was the purpose of the Horowitz study?
6. 6.    Briefly describe the methods used in the Horowitz study (who, what, when, where).  What were the 4 groups of play behavior used by Horowitz when analyzing her data?
7. 7.    What play signals did the dogs use most?   What attention-getter behaviors were used most often? Least often?
8. 8. What does Horowitz’s analysis tell us about the ability of dogs to manipulate another’s’ behavior?
9. 9. Horowitz gives a cognition explanation for these behaviors; do you think that is necessary, or can a behavioral approach explain the data as well?

**Things to think about:**

1. How do the various dogs in our lab play together? Who is an initiator? Who tends to take the “dominant” role and who tends to take the “submissive” role? Who takes an “egalitarian” role?
2. Do all dogs need to be able to play with other dogs? Why or why not?
3. For the domestic dog, which is more important, social behavior with humans or social behavior with other dogs?